

# **The NH Climate Action Plan**

## **The Transportation and Land Use Connection**

**NH Office of Energy and Planning**  
**Spring Conference**  
**May 2, 2009**

**Chris Skoglund**  
**Energy and Transportation Analyst**  
**[Christopher.Skoglund@des.nh.gov](mailto:Christopher.Skoglund@des.nh.gov)**  
**603-271-7624**

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# Overview

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- Climate Change Policy Task Force
- Climate Change in the Northeast
- New Hampshire Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Action Plan Recommendations
- Implementation

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# Climate Change Policy Task Force

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- Established through Executive Order 2007-3  
December 6, 2007
  - Establish quantified greenhouse reduction goals
  - Recommend specific actions to achieve its greenhouse gas reduction goals

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# Action Plan Development Process

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- Climate Change Policy Task Force
  - Twenty-nine (29) members
- Working Groups (6)
  - 125+ Participants
- Six (6) Official Public Listening Sessions
  - 15 Locations
  - 275 Participants
  - 100 Commenters

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# Indicators of Climate Change in the Northeast

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- Winter warming
- Decreased snowfall
- Fewer days with snow on ground
- Lake ice out dates earlier
- Earlier spring runoff
- More frequent extreme precipitation
- Extended growing season
- Sea-level rise

Hodgkins et al., 2002; 2003; Wolfe et al., 2005;  
Wake and Markham, 2005; Wake et al., 2006

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# Flooding in NH

October 2005

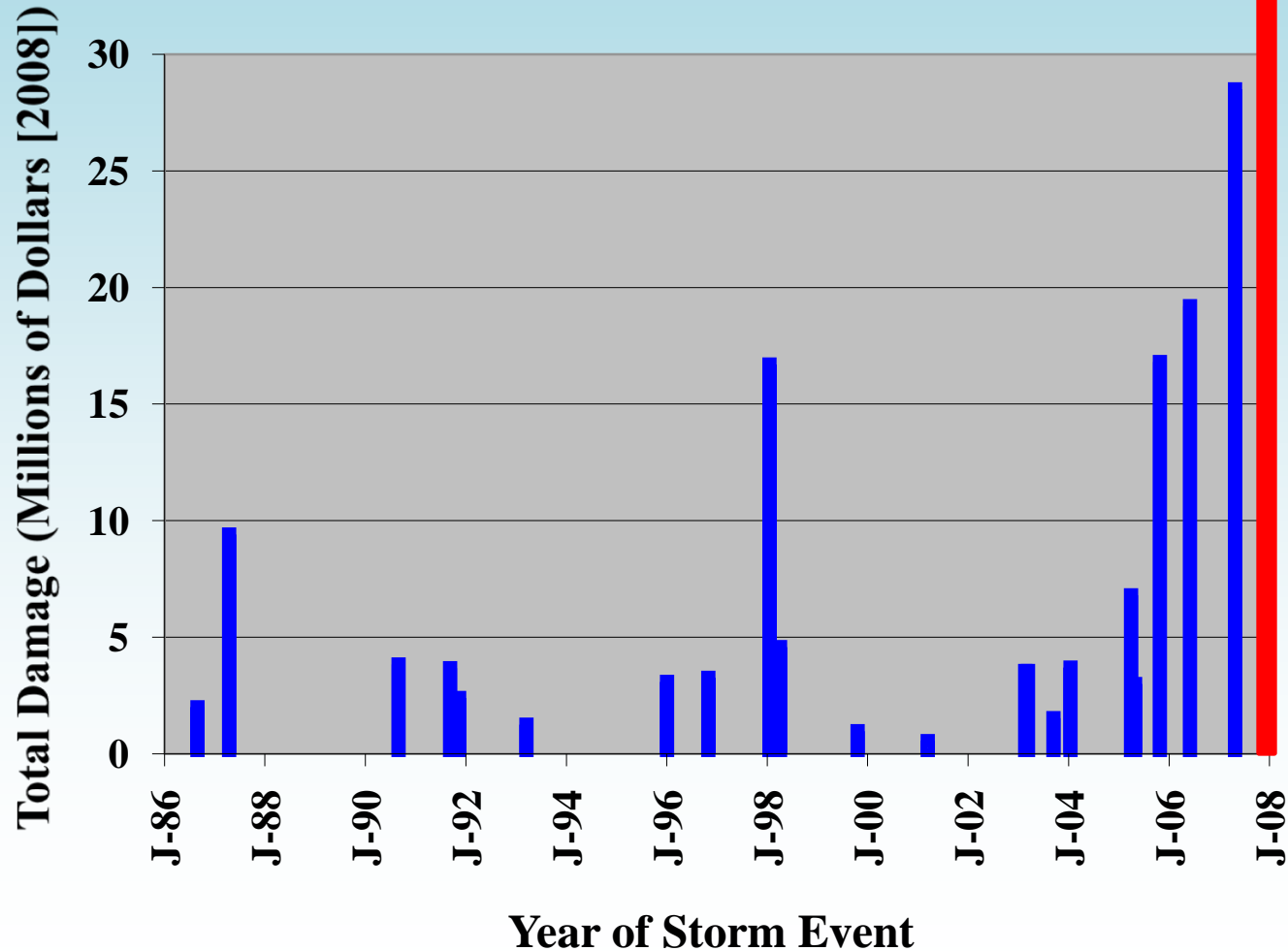
May 2006

April 2007

September 2008



# Presidentially Declared Storm-Related Disasters



# Future Climate Impacts in New Hampshire

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By late in the century:

- Winter snow season cut in half
- Sea-level rise up to nearly three feet
- More than 60 days with temperatures over 90°F in most cities
- Six to 24 days with temperatures over 100°F (compared with one or two days per year historically).

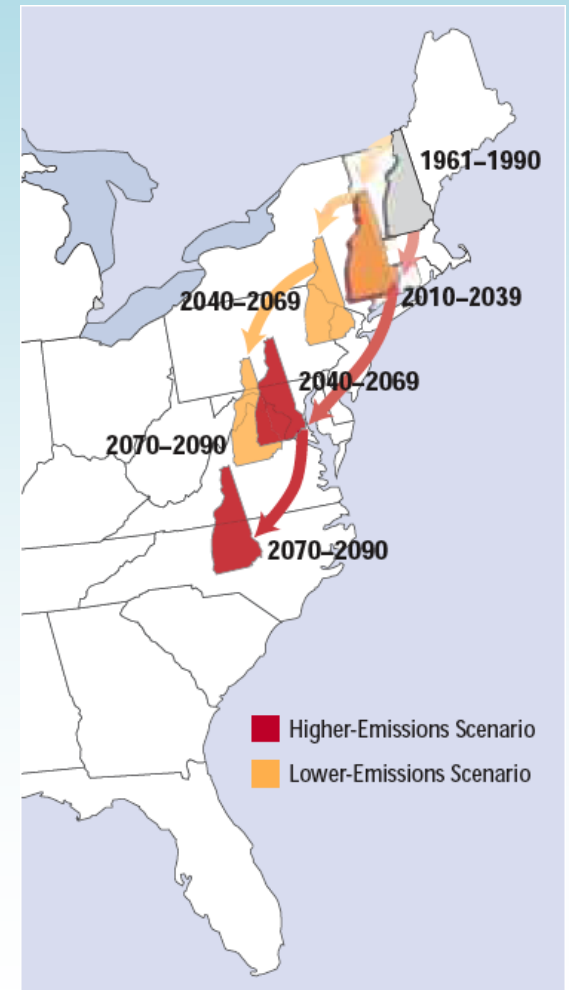
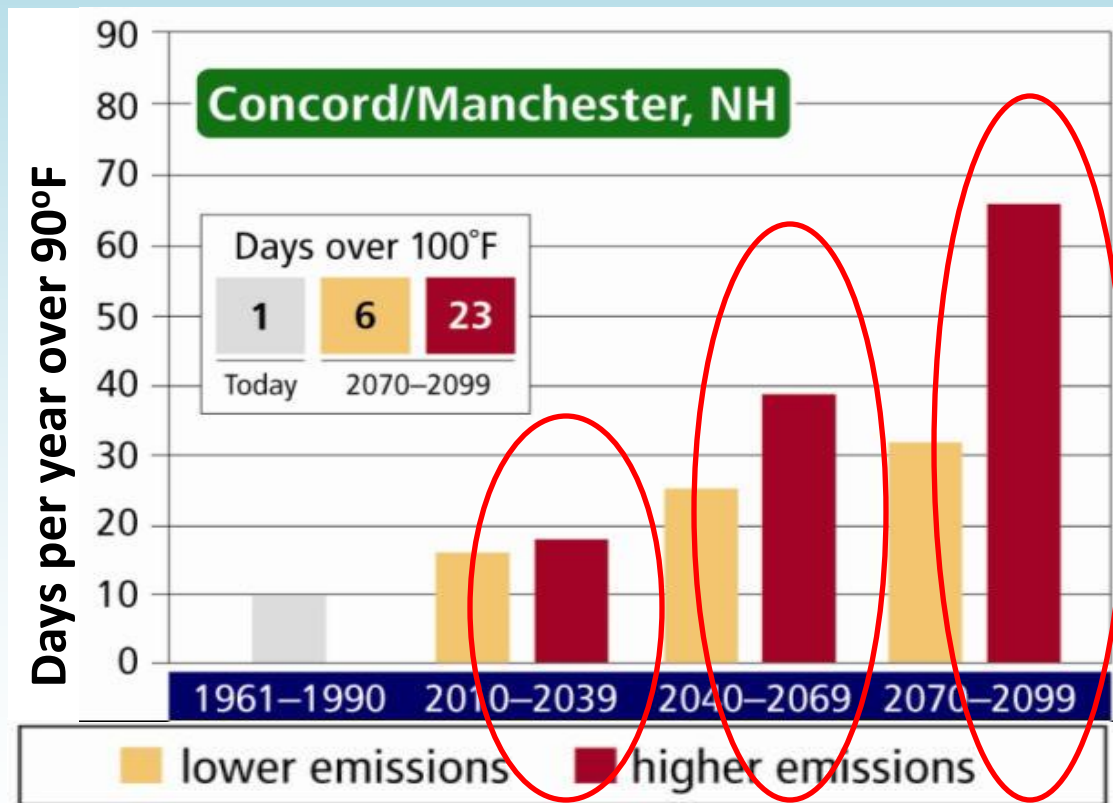
Northeast Climate Impacts Assessment (2007)

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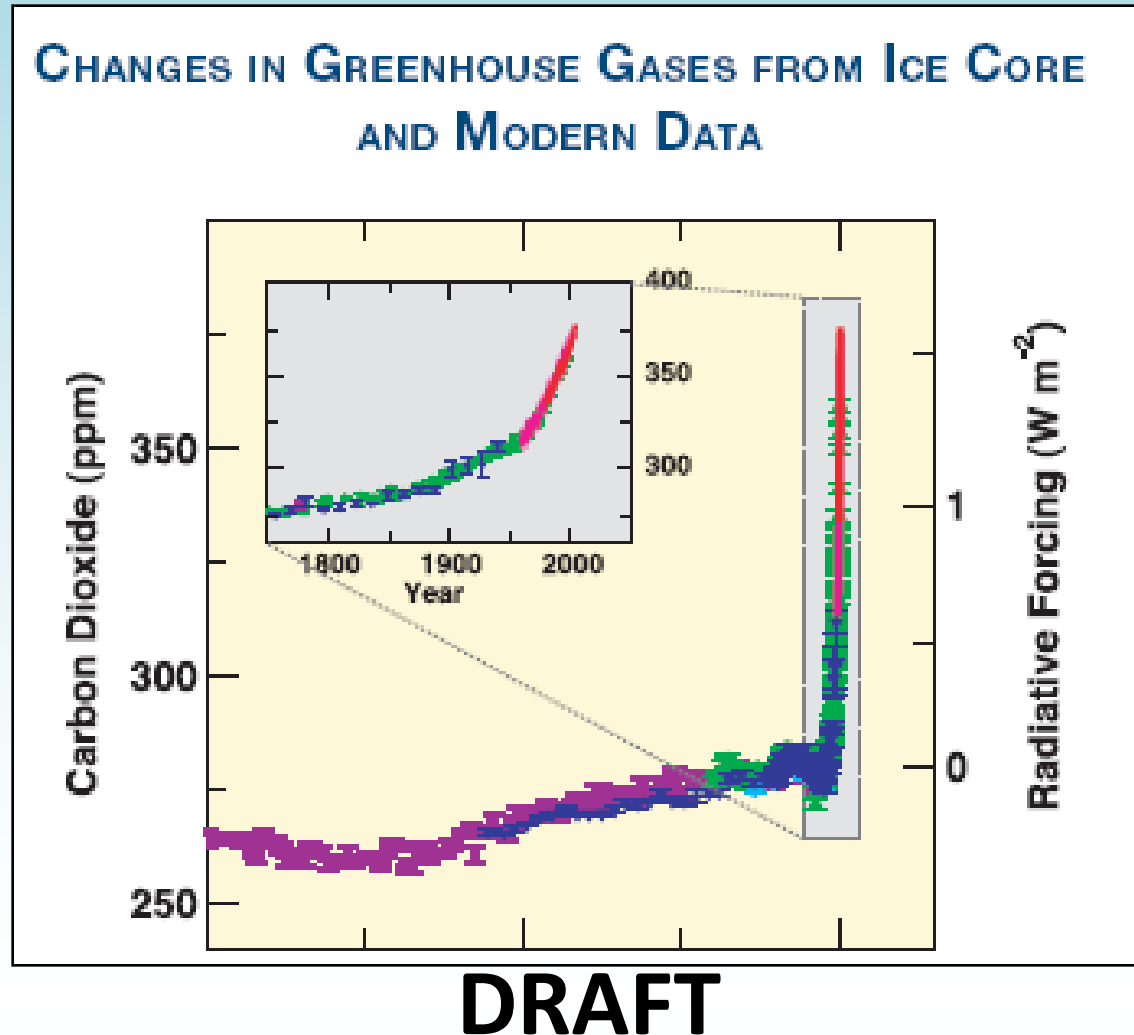




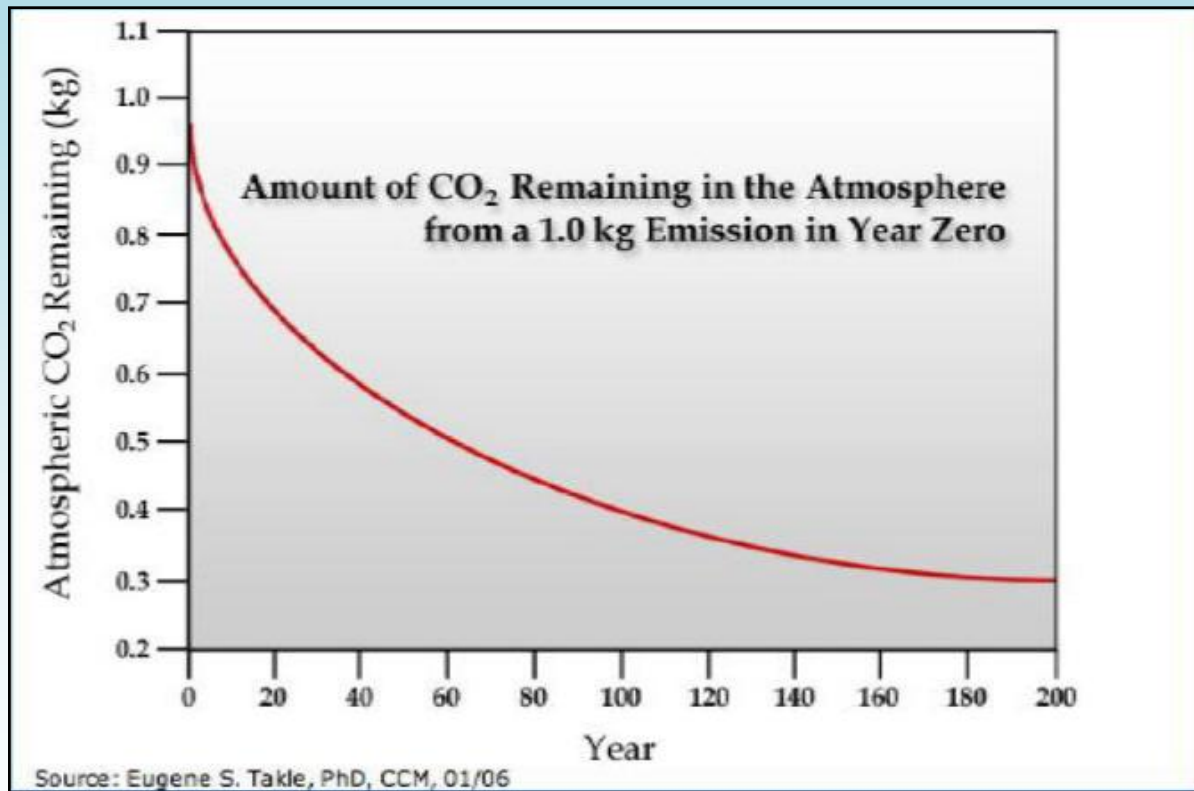
# Projections of Climate Change in New Hampshire



# Drivers of Climate Change

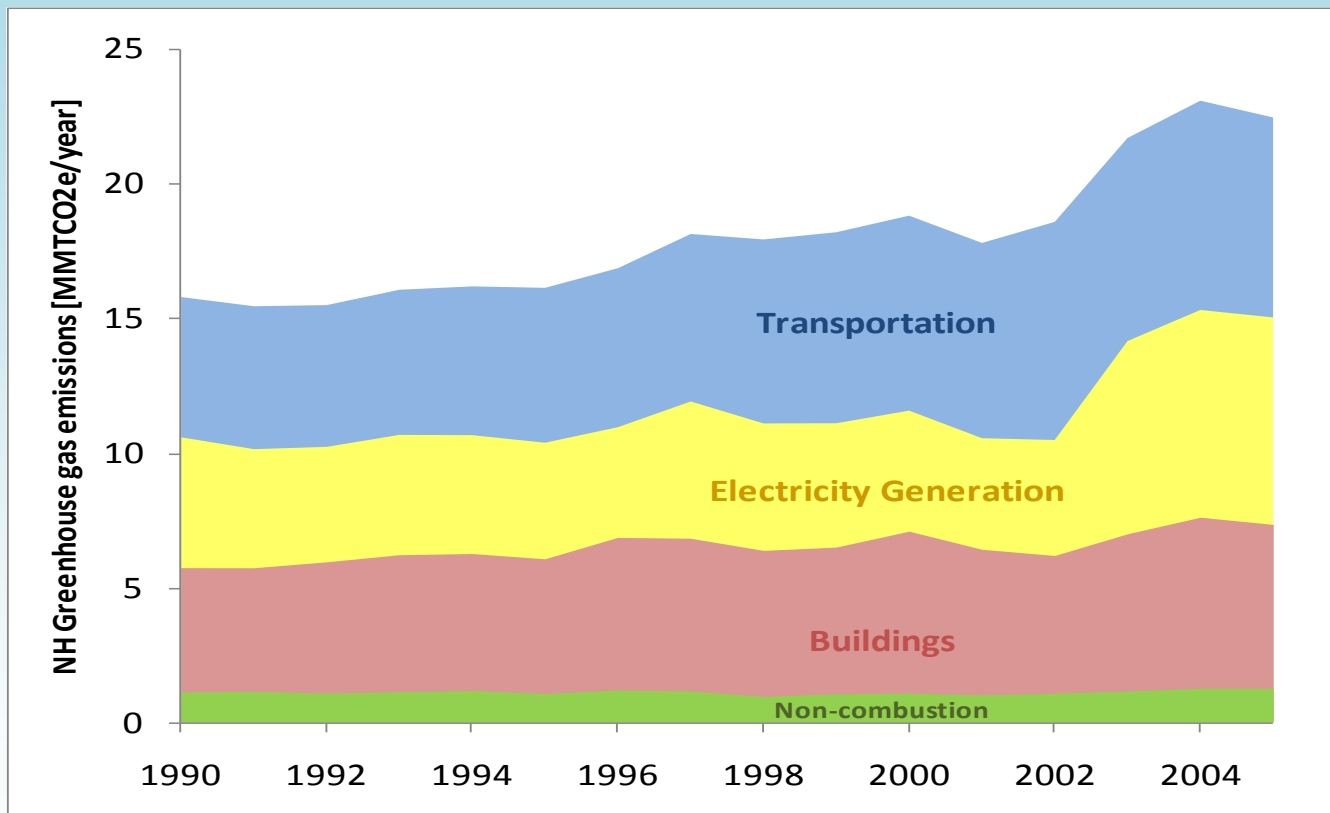


# Drivers of Climate Change



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# Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory

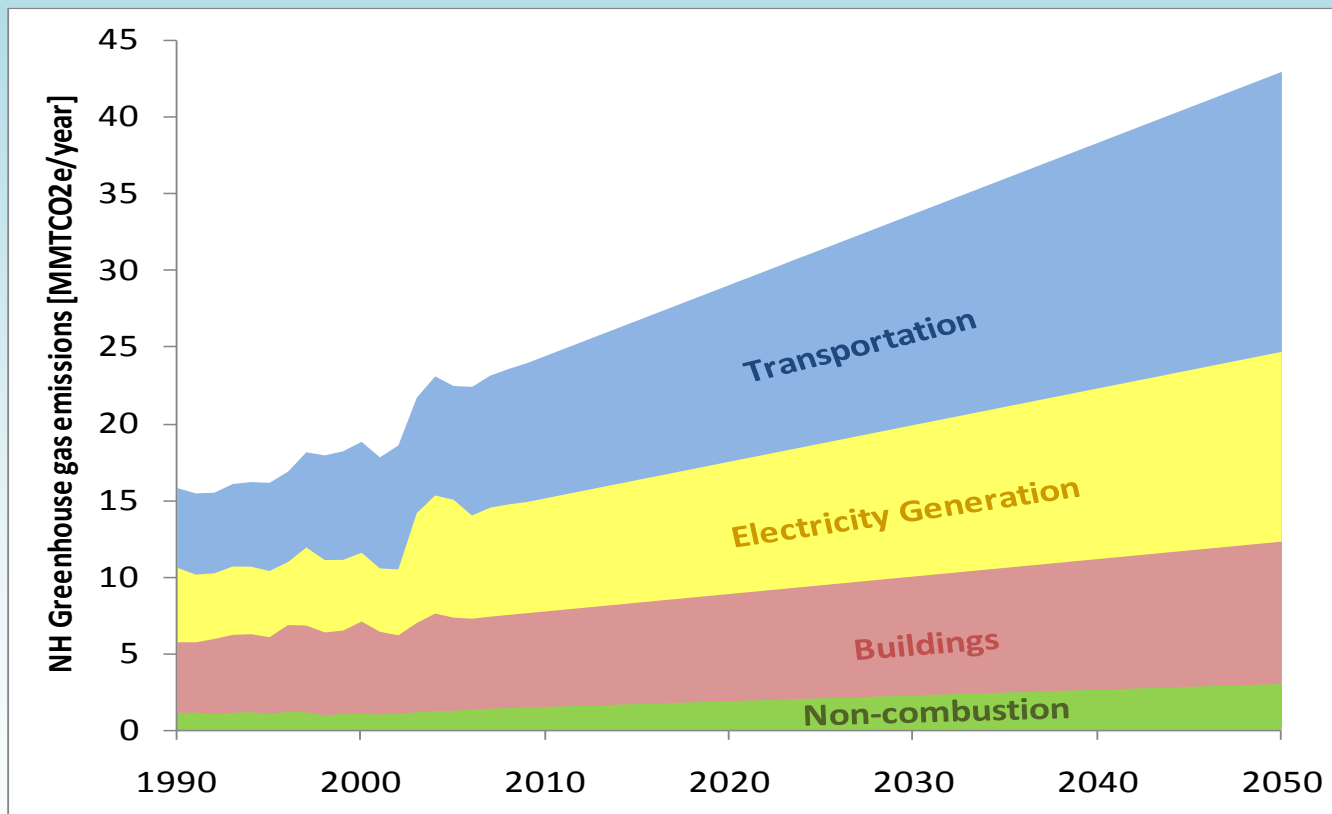


Historical data from EPA

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# Greenhouse Gas Emissions Projections



Historical data from EPA

Business as Usual (BAU) estimates from CSNE

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# Climate Change Policy Task Force Recommended Goals

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- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
20% below 1990 levels by 2025
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions  
80% below 1990 levels by 2050

STATE ACTION COMPLEMENTS GLOBAL EFFORTS

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# Overarching Strategies to Achieve Goals

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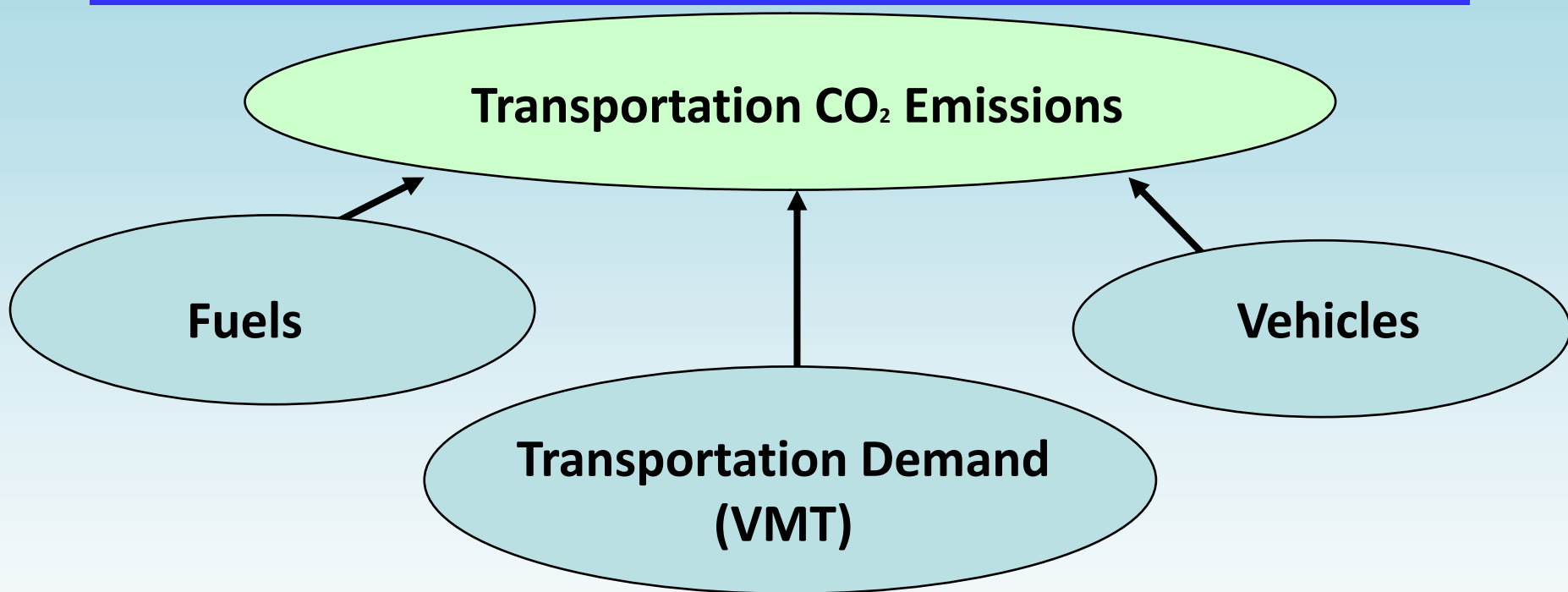
1. Maximize energy efficiency in buildings and transportation;
2. Increase renewable and low-emitting heat and electric power sources;
3. Protect our natural resources to maintain the amount of carbon sequestered;
4. Develop an integrated education, outreach and workforce training program; and
5. Adapt to existing and potential climate change impacts.

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# Greenhouse Gas Emissions Transportation Sector

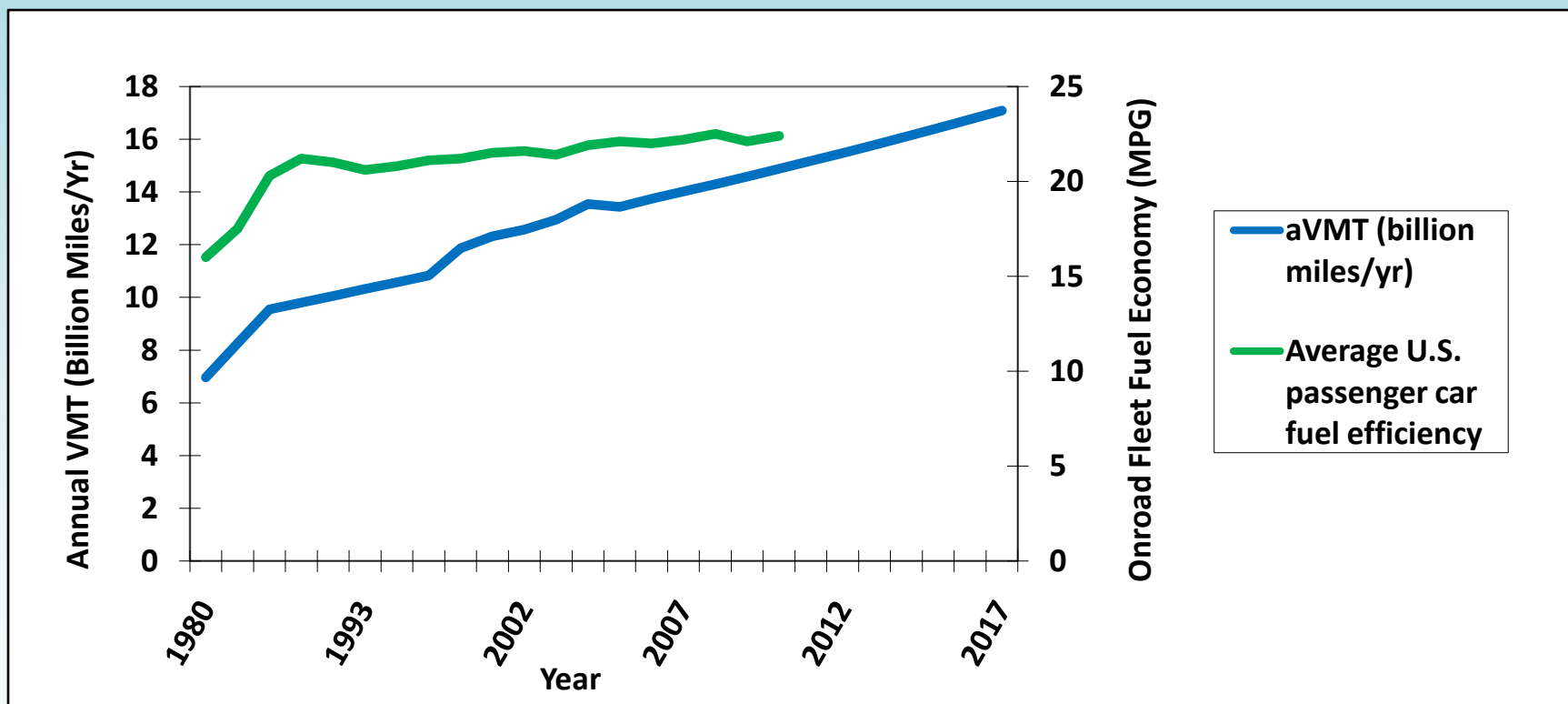
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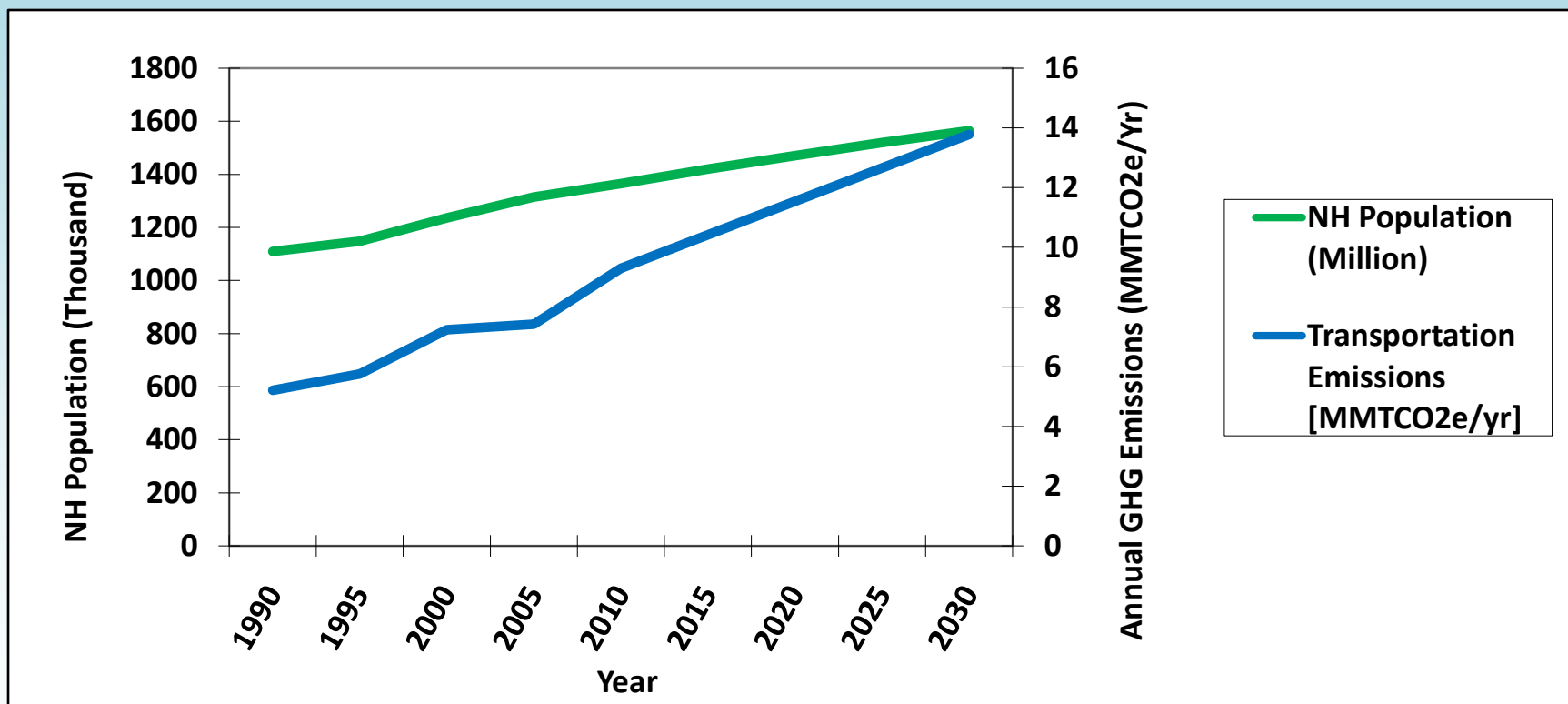


# Greenhouse Gas Emissions Transportation Sector



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# Greenhouse Gas Emissions Transportation Sector

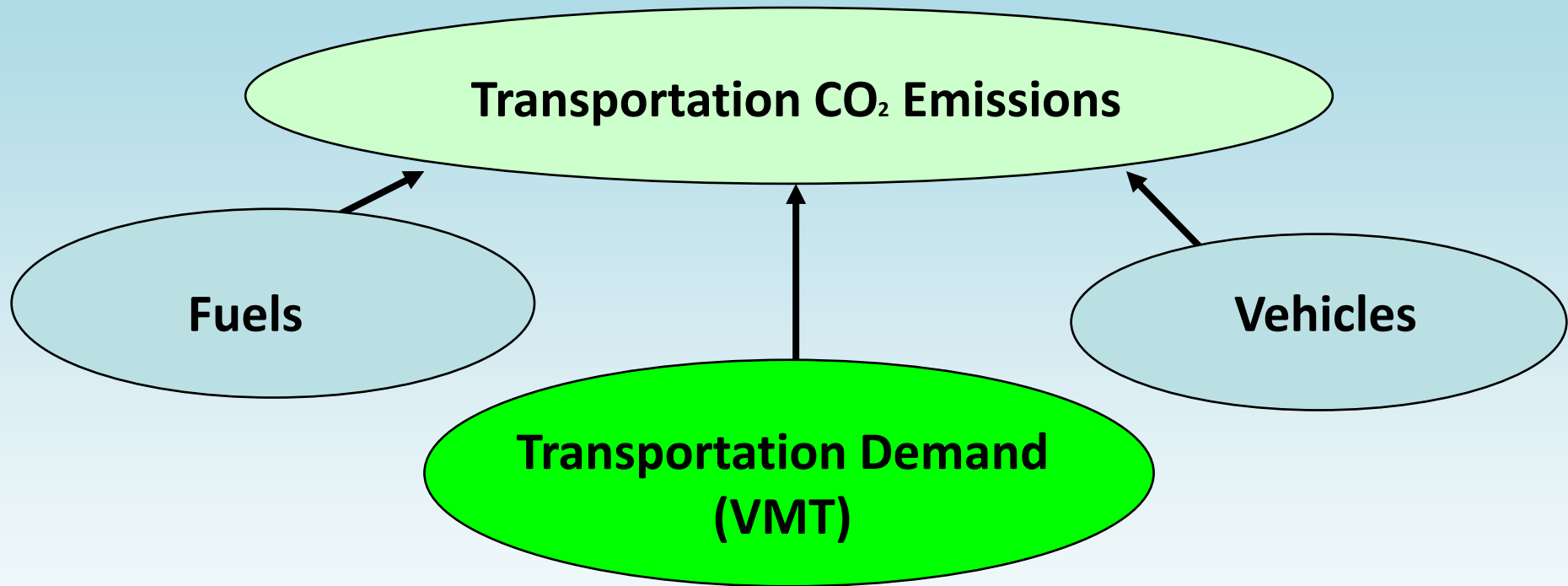


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# Greenhouse Gas Emission REDUCTIONS

## Transportation Sector

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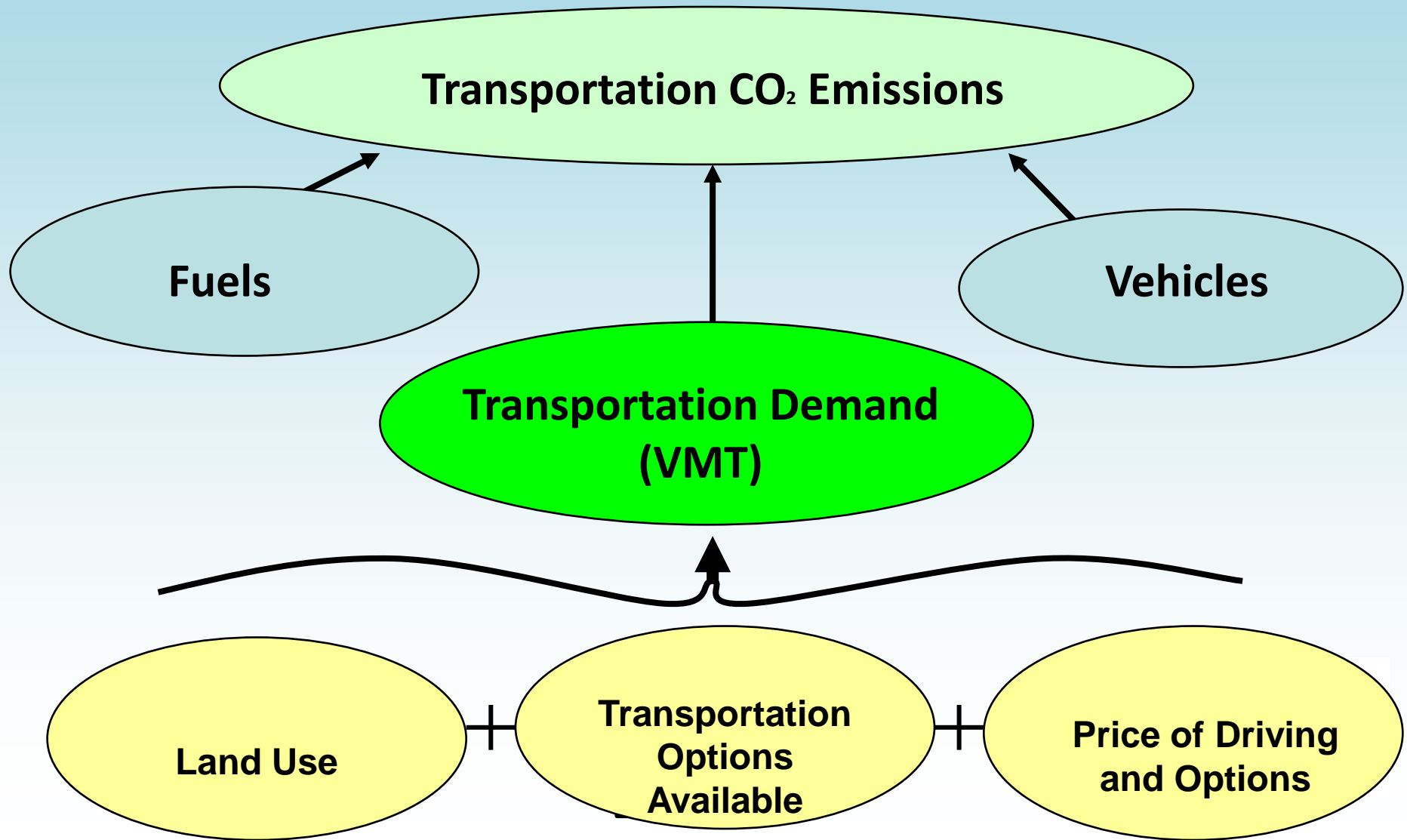


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# Greenhouse Gas Emission REDUCTIONS

## Transportation Sector

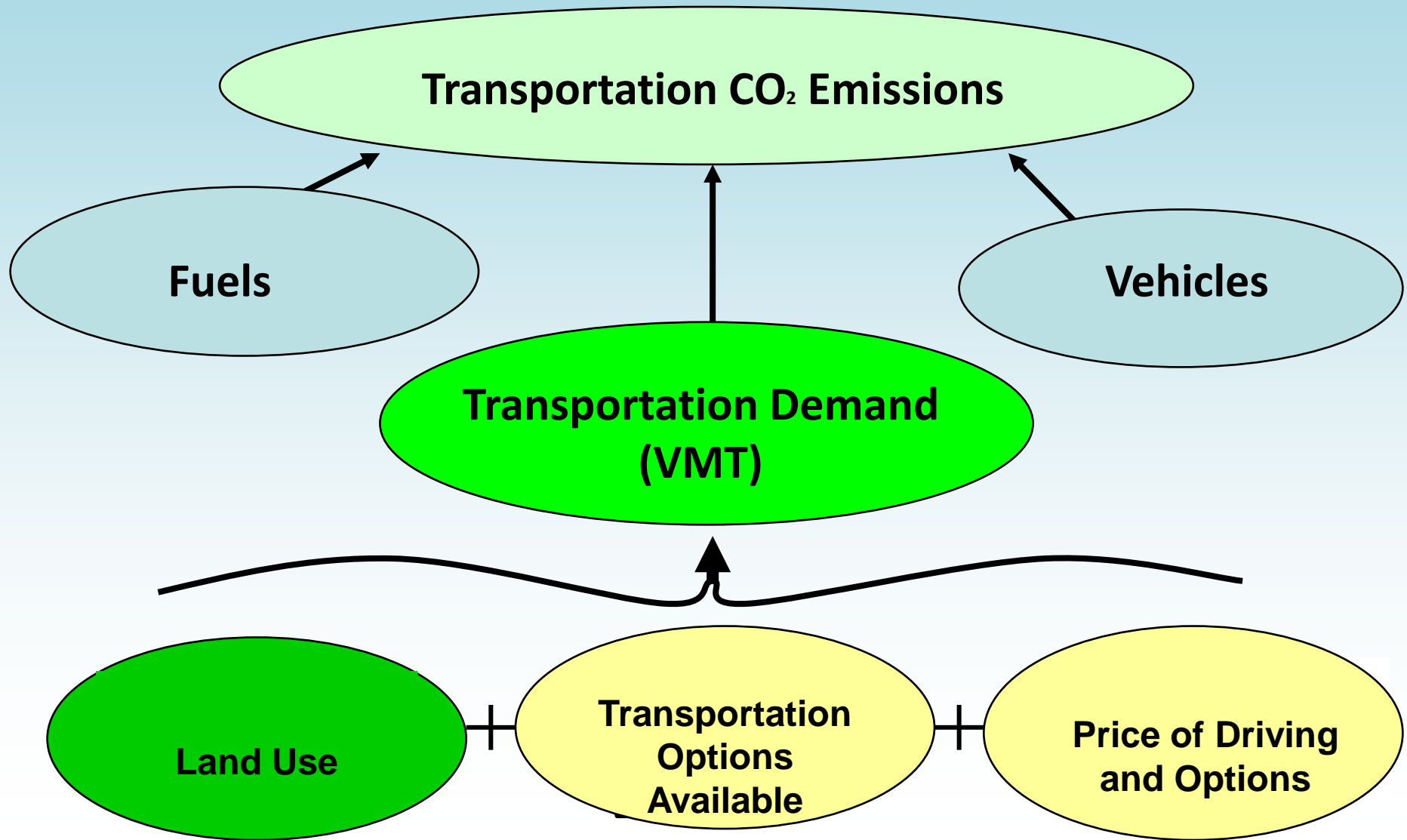
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# Greenhouse Gas Emission REDUCTIONS

## Transportation Sector

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# Current New Hampshire Land Use Patterns

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- Rapidly growing small towns
- Scattered development
- Dispersing population
- Increasing rate of land consumption
- Segregated land uses
- Lack of centers
- Poor accessibility

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# Desired Outcomes

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- Open space preservation
- Higher density development
- Concentrated activity centers
- Mixed use development
- Pedestrian oriented design
- Increased density near transit

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# Recommended Land Use Actions

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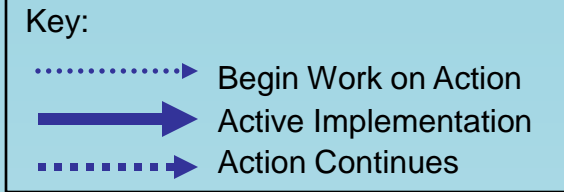
- Assess Greenhouse Gas Development Impact Fees
- Streamline Approvals for Low- Greenhouse Gas Development Projects
- Develop Model Zoning to Support Bus/Rail Transit
- Develop Model Zoning for Higher-Density, Mixed-Use Development
- Continue/Expand Funding, Education, and Technical Assistance to Municipalities

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# Encourage Appropriate Land-Use Patterns that Reduce VMTs



Actions:

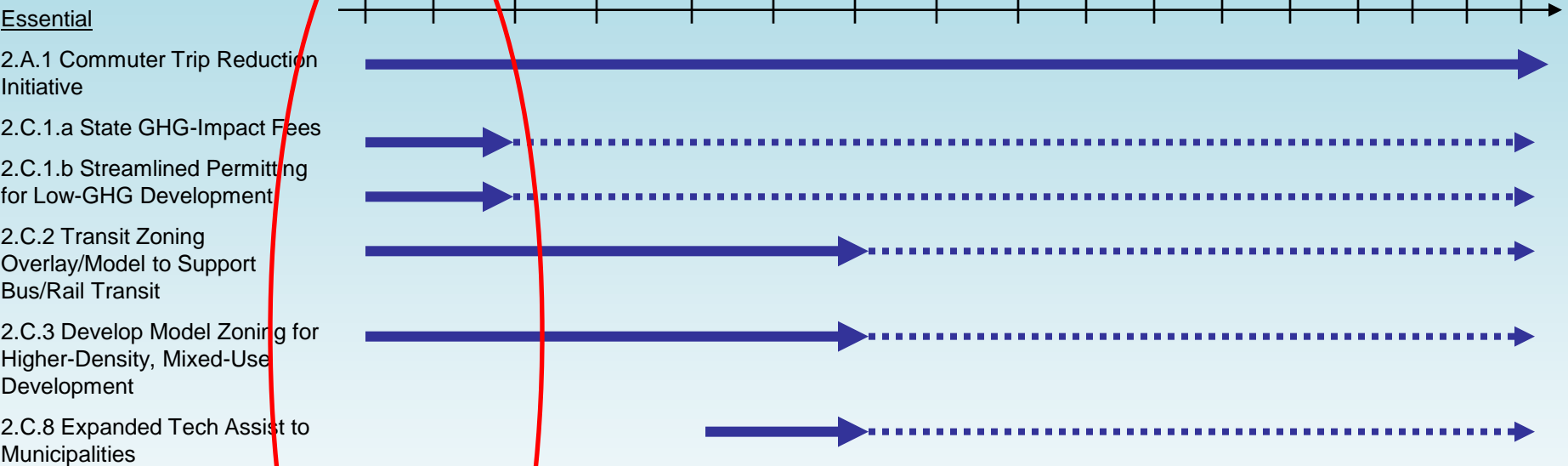
2009

2012

2015

2020

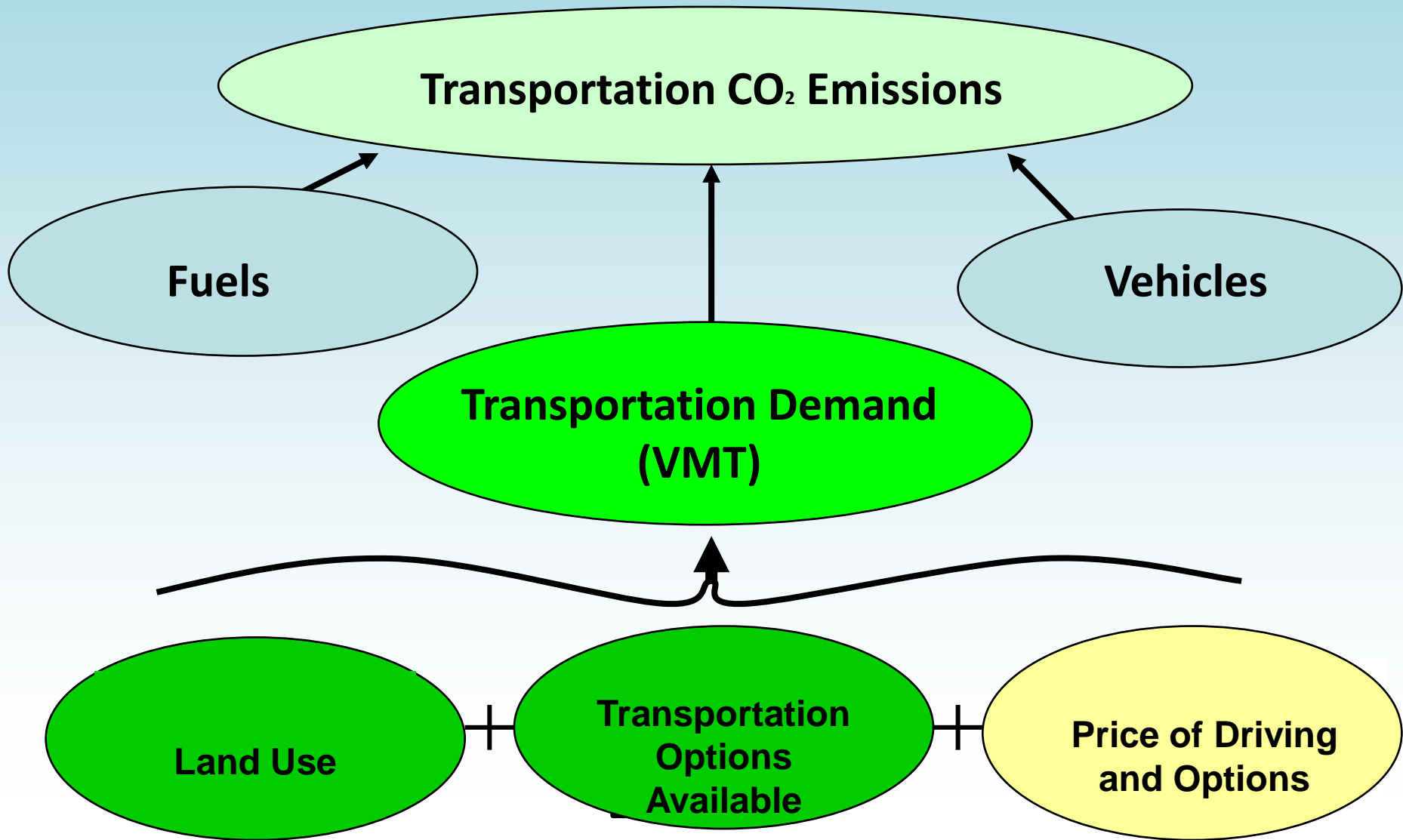
2025



# Greenhouse Gas Emission REDUCTIONS

## Transportation Sector

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# Desired Outcomes

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- Expand existing transit availability
- Increase transit options
- Increase connectivity of transportation system

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# Desired Outcomes

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# Recommended Transit Actions

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- Improve Existing Local/Intra-Regional Transit (Bus) Service
- Expand Local/Intra-Regional Transit (Bus) Service
- Improve Existing Inter-City Bus Service
- Expand and Improve Bicycle and Pedestrian Infrastructure
- Maintain and Expand Passenger Rail Service
- Maintain and Expand Freight Rail Service
- Implement a Stable Funding Stream to Support Public Transportation
- Expand Park-and-Ride Infrastructure



# Reduce VMTs through an Integrated Multi-Modal Transportation System

Key:

- .....> Begin Work on Action
- > Active Implementation
- .....> Action Continues

Actions:

2009

2012

2015

2020

2025

## Essential

2.B.1.a Expand Local Bus Service

2.B.1.b Improve Existing Local Bus Service

2.B.2 a Maintain and Improve Passenger Rail Service

2.B.2.b Maintain and Improve Freight Rail Service

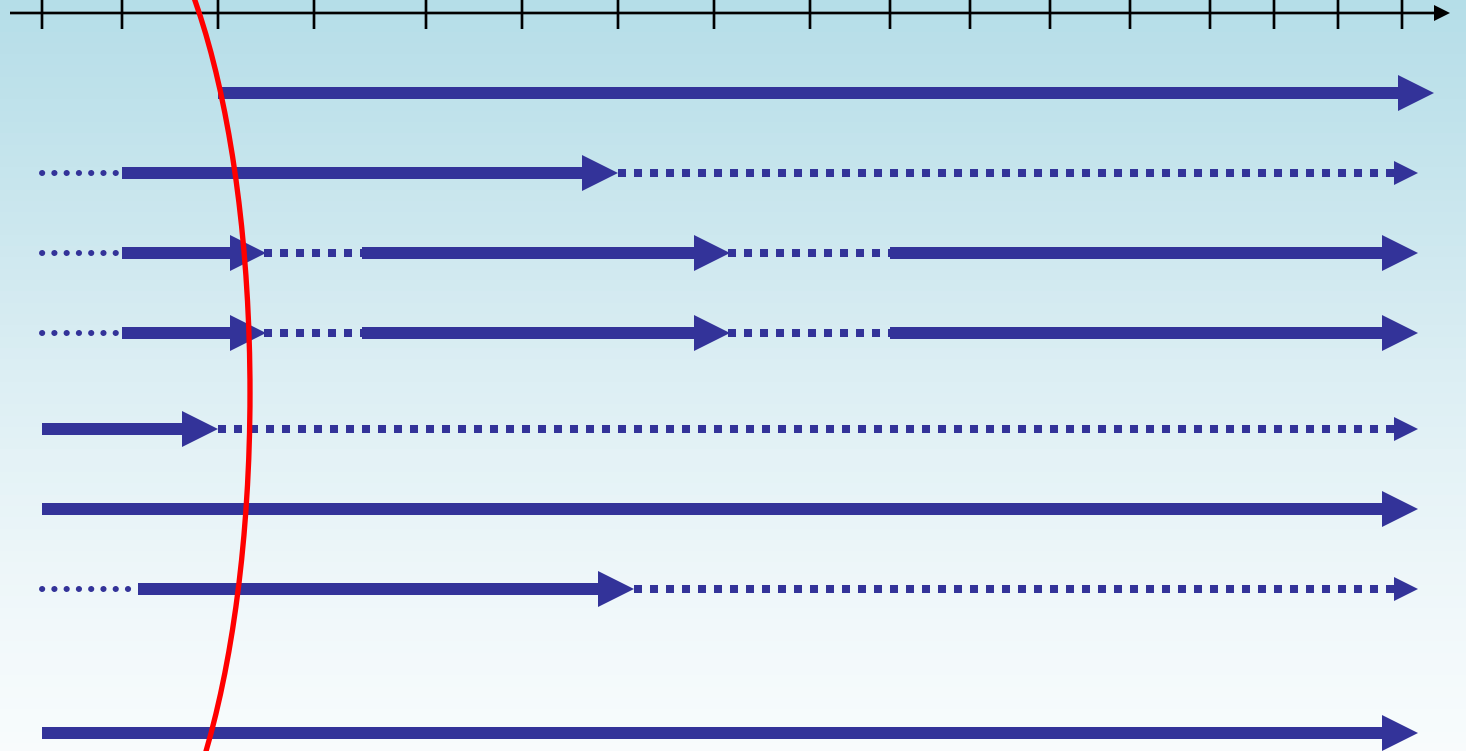
2.B.2.c Establish a Dedicated Funding Source for Public Transportation

2.B.2.e Expand Park-and-Ride Infrastructure

2.B.2.h Improve Existing Inter-city Bus Service

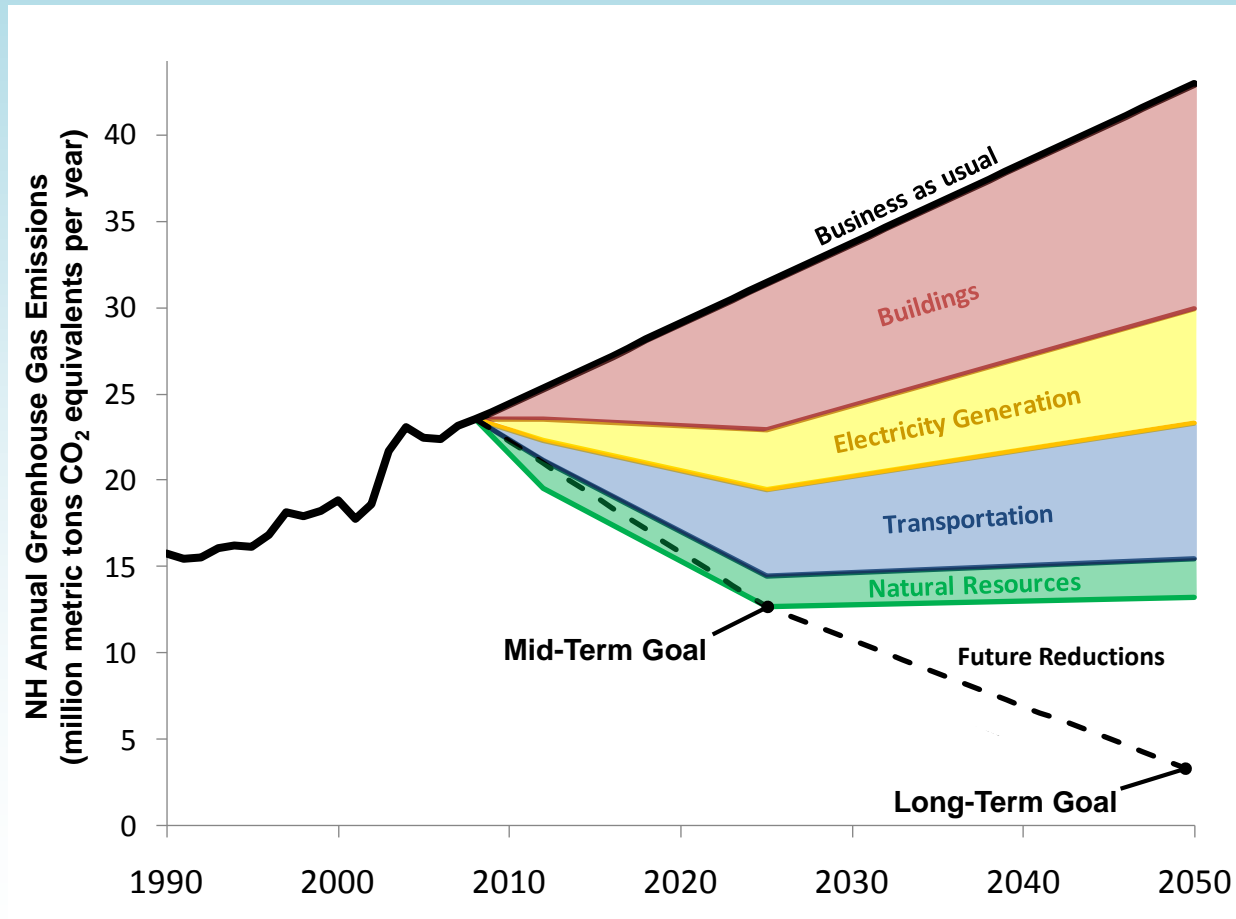
## Supporting

2.B.1.c Expand/Improve Bike/Ped Infrastructure



# Climate Action Plan

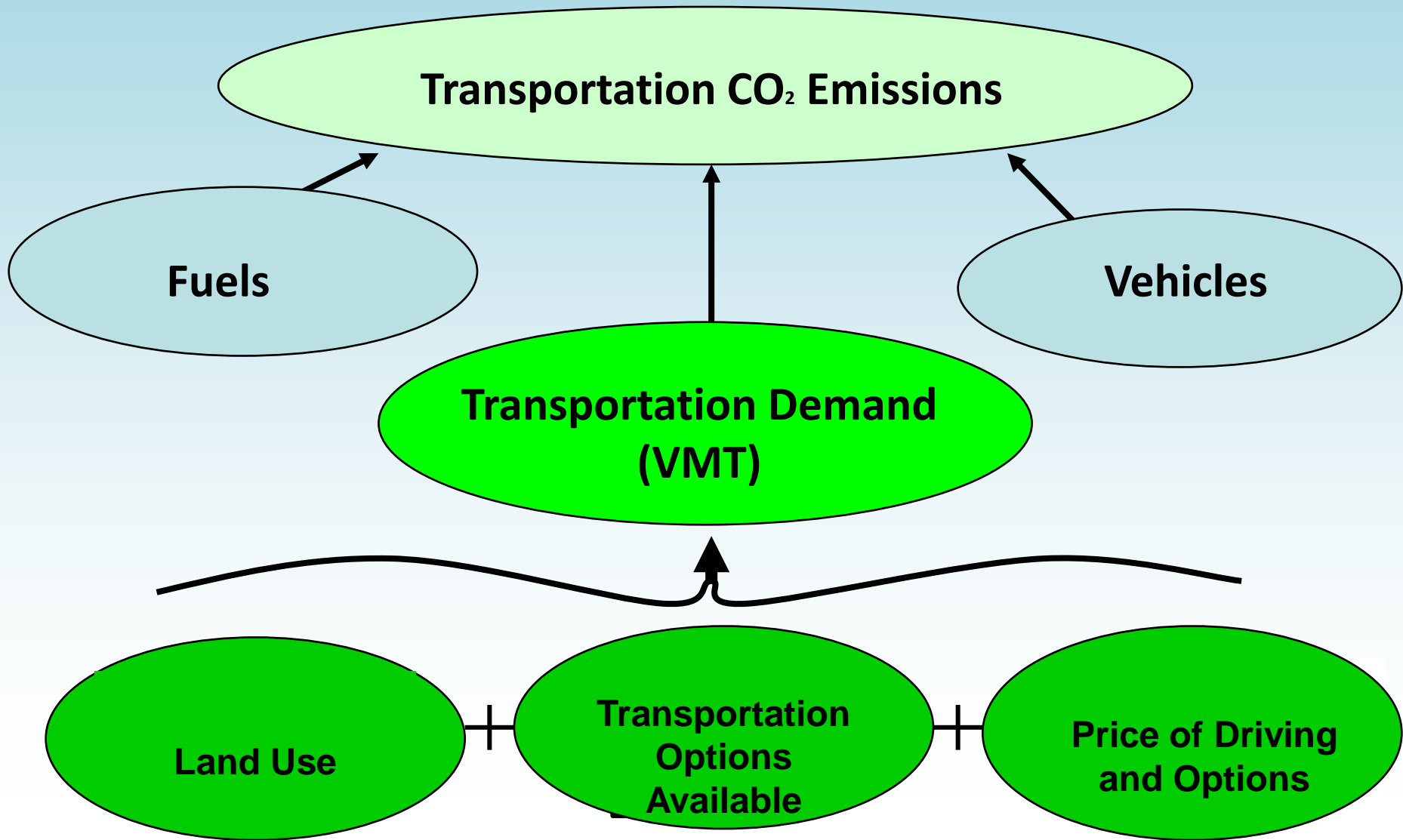
## Emission Reduction Potential



# Greenhouse Gas Emission REDUCTIONS

## Transportation Sector

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# Plan for Existing and Potential Climate Change Impacts

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- Develop and Distribute Critical Information on Climate Change
- Promote Policies and Actions to Help Populations Most at Risk
- Strengthen Protection of New Hampshire's Natural Systems
- Increase Resilience to Extreme Weather Events

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# Moving Forward

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- NH Climate and Energy Collaborative
  - Six members from the business community.
  - Six members from the public sector.
  - Six members from the education and nonprofit sectors.
- Implementing Partners
  - “Boots on the Ground”

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# NH Energy and Climate Collaborative

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- “Keeper of the Plan”
- Develop yearly work plans
- Guide and approve staff level work products
- Identify potential areas of research and economic development
- Report on progress against goals of the Plan
- Hold an annual meeting to report on progress
- Revise the Plan in a regular fashion

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# Contacts

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Chris Skoglund

Energy and Transportation Analyst

NH Dept. of Environmental Services

[Christopher.skoglund@des.nh.gov](mailto:Christopher.skoglund@des.nh.gov)

(603) 271-7624

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